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THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

What has happened to Diesel?

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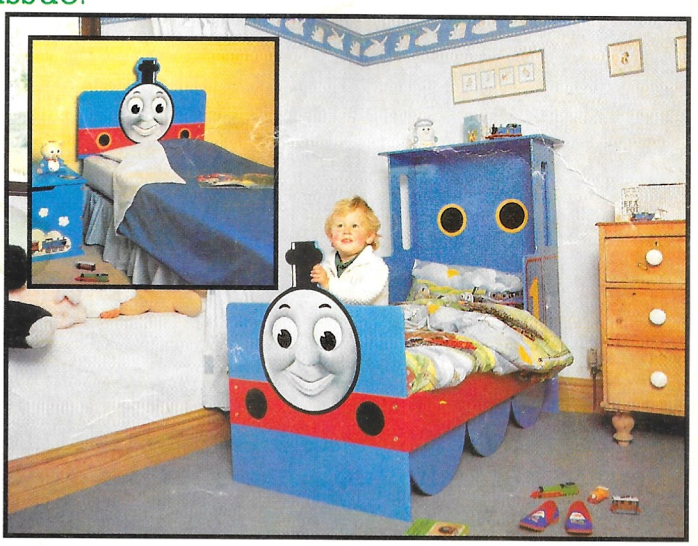
NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! Daisy is a thoroughly modern diesel railcar who enjoys carrying passengers for the Fat Controller. In our first story, the Fat Controller has asked Daisy to collect two very special passengers, leaving Diesel behind to work in the yard. You can find out what happens to Diesel when Daisy returns with her special friends! In our second story, Bertie's passengers try to keep warm! *Peep! Peep!*

THOMAS BED COMPETITION!

Win a single size ***Thomas Bed*** and two ***Thomas Bedheads*** on page **14** of this issue!



How to obtain your Fat Controller's Card!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card**, send one red, yellow and blue token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to: **The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.**

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THOMAS TOKEN

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THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS™

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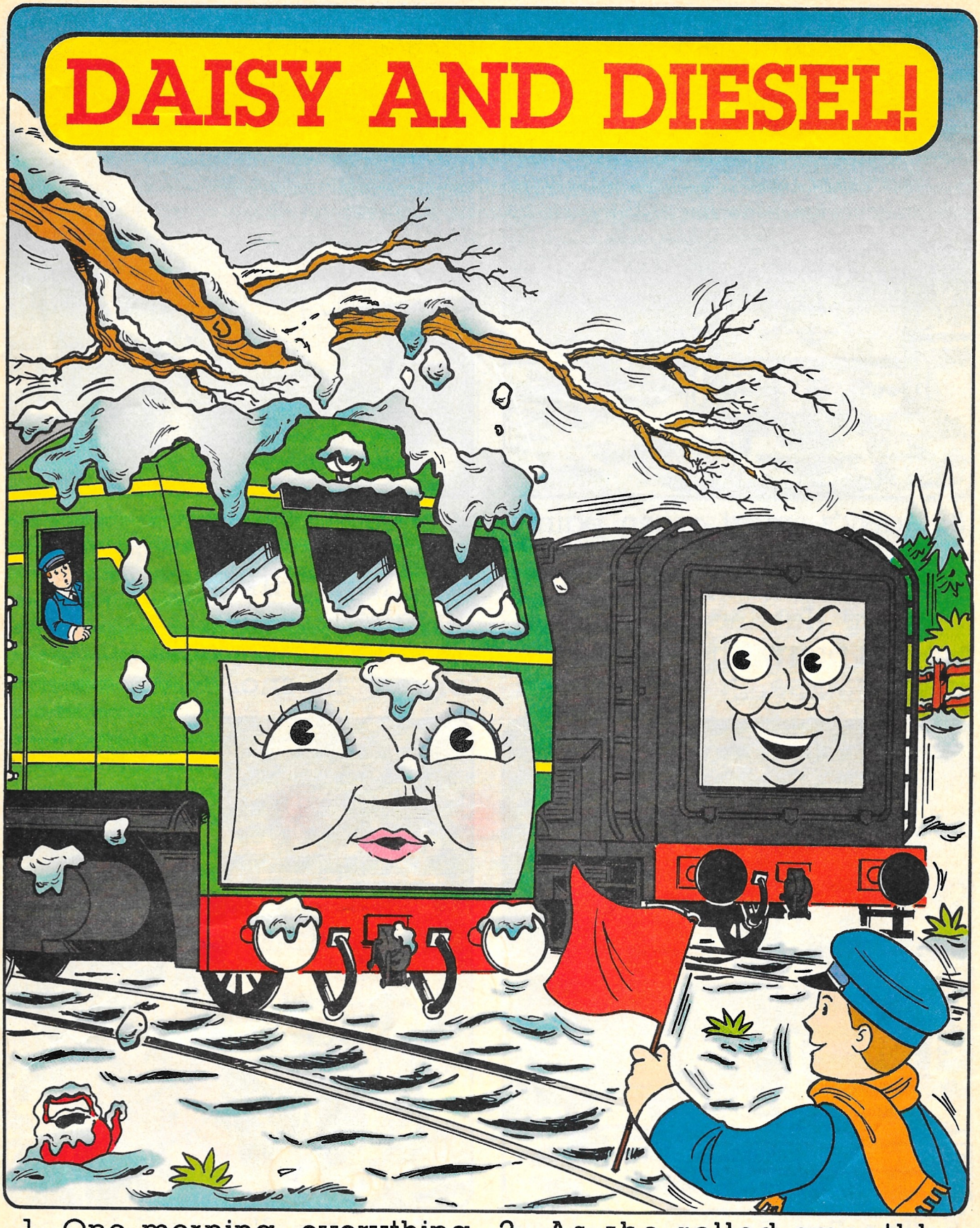
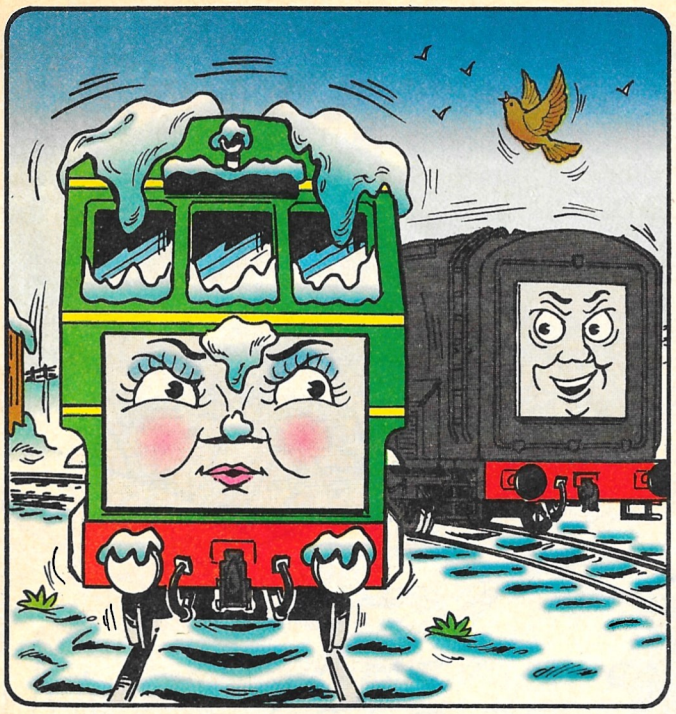
DAISY AND DIESEL!



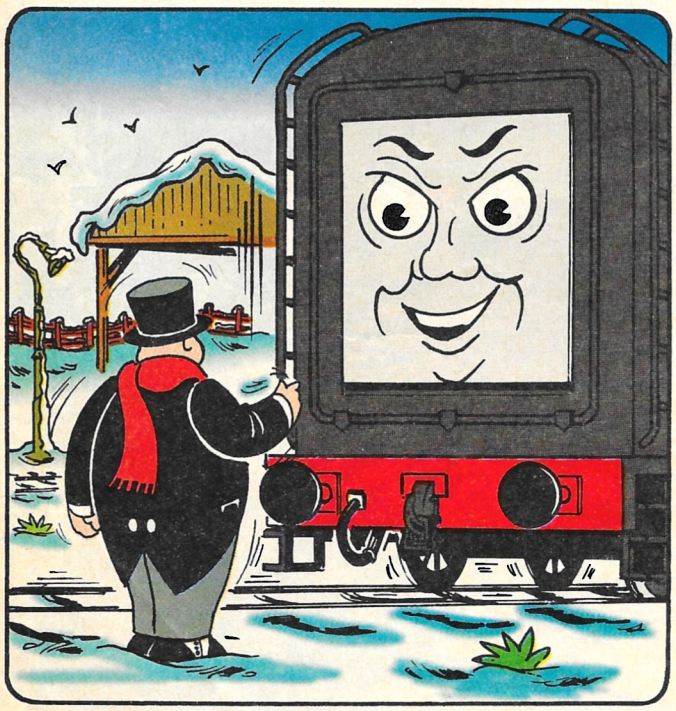
1. One morning, everything seemed strangely quiet to the engines inside their shed. "Snow!" gasped Daisy when the doors were opened. "It's so pretty!"

2. As she rolled smoothly across the yard, Daisy passed under an overhanging branch that was covered in snow. Suddenly, it all dropped off on top of her.



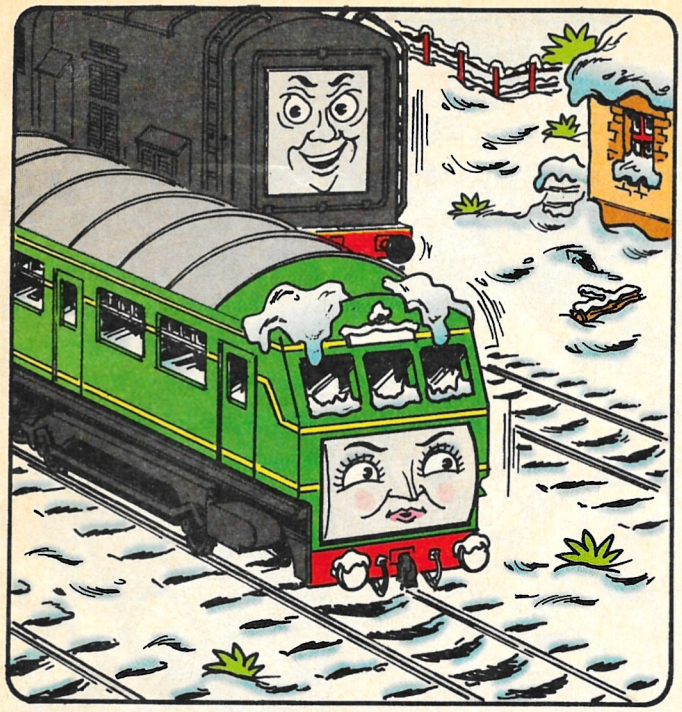
3. Daisy's smart green paintwork disappeared in a snow-cloud. Diesel watched nearby. "Ha! Ha! Snow is cold as well as pretty!" he laughed in his oily voice.

4. "Brr!" shivered Daisy. "That wasn't funny. You wouldn't like it!" Diesel laughed all the more. "Pah! A little snow wouldn't bother me!" he snorted.



5. The Fat Controller heard them arguing. "Now then, there's work to do!" he said. "Of course, Sir!" replied Diesel. "Daisy's just making a fuss!"

6. "Oh, no, I'm not!" hissed Daisy. She was very cross with Diesel. The Fat Controller asked her to fetch his grandchildren, who were coming to stay.



7. Meanwhile, Diesel was to shunt trucks in the yard. "Enjoy your trip in the snow," sneered Diesel as Daisy left. "It might help you to cool down!"

8. "What a cheek!" fumed Daisy. Before long, she arrived at the harbour station. Stephen and Bridget were waiting, after their trip by boat from the mainland.

9. Daisy raced back to the Main Station with them. "Well done, Daisy!" said the Fat Controller. The children rushed out to play in the snow.

10. While Daisy collected a goods train full of car tyres, Stephen and Bridget built a giant snowball near the yard where Diesel pushed and pulled trucks.

11. As Daisy returned, she came sweeping around a bend. One of her trucks was overloaded and a tyre fell off. It bounced towards the snowball. Stephen and Bridget began to push it out of the way but the snowball rolled down the slope towards Diesel. "Look out!" cried Daisy. But Diesel's trucks were bumping and clattering.

12. He did not hear Daisy call to him. Next moment, the huge snowball hit him and exploded. "Grooh! I can't see for snow!" spluttered Diesel. Diesel was covered in thick snow. "It's freezing!" he shouted. Daisy stopped nearby while her driver picked up the tyre. "Now who's fussing, Diesel?" she teased.

THE END!

In our next issue: The Clever Catch!

JOIN THE DOTS!

The guards are having some fun in the snow,
But does the Fat Controller know
That Bridget's borrowed his big top hat?
What do you think she's doing with that?
Join the dots and you will see -
It looks very fine, don't you agree?

THOMAS AND THE FACTORY!

The Fat Controller runs his railway to a strict timetable so everyone knows exactly when a train is due.

When Thomas pulls the week-day passenger train on his branch line, he always passes a big factory at noon and hears its hooter give three loud blasts.

"Peep! Peep!" Thomas replies. The workers usually wave to him from the windows or factory grounds. One night, in the shed, Thomas told the other engines about the factory.

"The people there are very friendly," he said. "They blow a hooter especially to say 'hello' to me!"

But the next time Thomas went by, there was not a sound from the factory hooter. Thomas was puzzled. It had only ever happened once before, when he was late, because of a points failure.

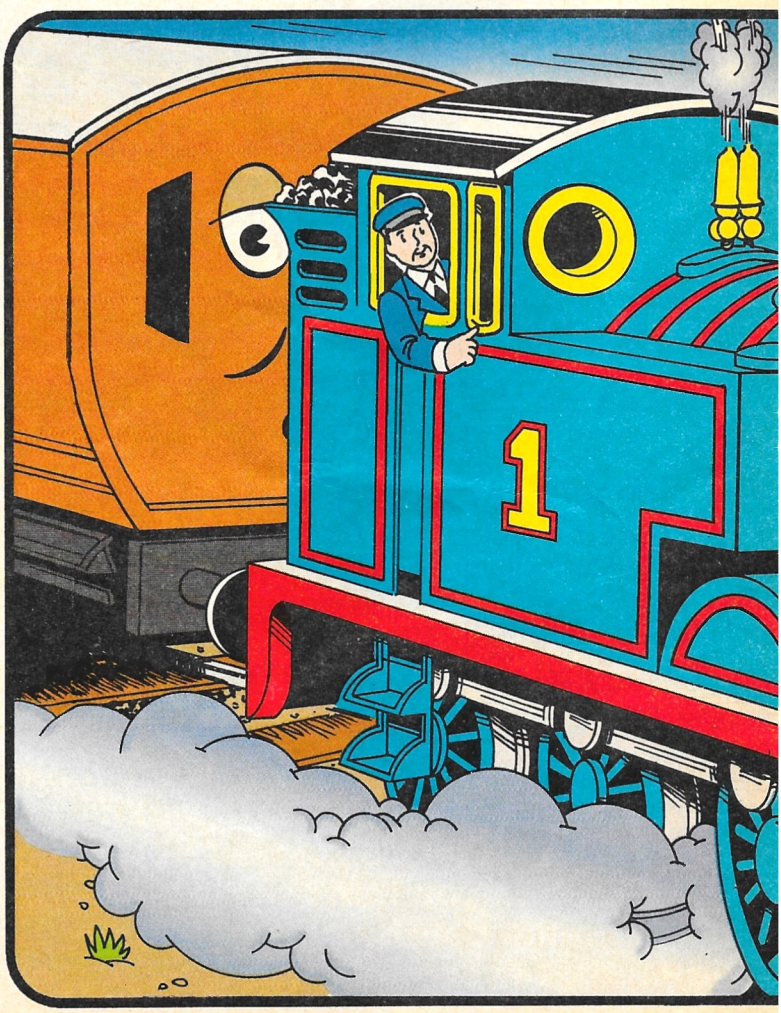
"That's strange!" thought Thomas. "I'm sure I'm right on schedule!" Today, there were no friendly faces to greet him. Thomas was so sad he forgot to blow his whistle. He continued up the line to Wellsworth Station. While Thomas waited to pick up passengers, he asked his driver why the factory hooter was silent.

"It's a mystery!" the driver replied. Thomas felt sad.

"Perhaps the workers don't want to be my friends any more," he thought as he rolled out of the station.

Next day, the factory hooter was quiet again. Thomas puffed by without blowing his whistle. When he returned to the Main Station yard, the Fat Controller brought a visitor to see him. It was the factory manager.

"This is Mr Jones. He needs your help, Thomas!" said the Fat



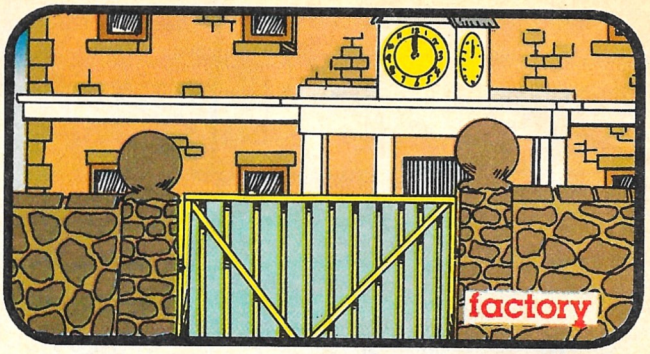
Controller. "The factory hooter has broken and will take a few days to mend. It should signal midday to tell the workers to stop for lunch!" Thomas was surprised.

"Oh, that's why I always heard it!" he cried.

"Everyone at the factory thinks you are a friendly, reliable engine," explained the Fat Controller. "They want you to whistle as usual when you go by so they'll know it's lunchtime!"

Thomas happily agreed.

"Of course, Sir!" he said. The following day, Thomas approached the factory, right on schedule. "Peep! Peep!" he

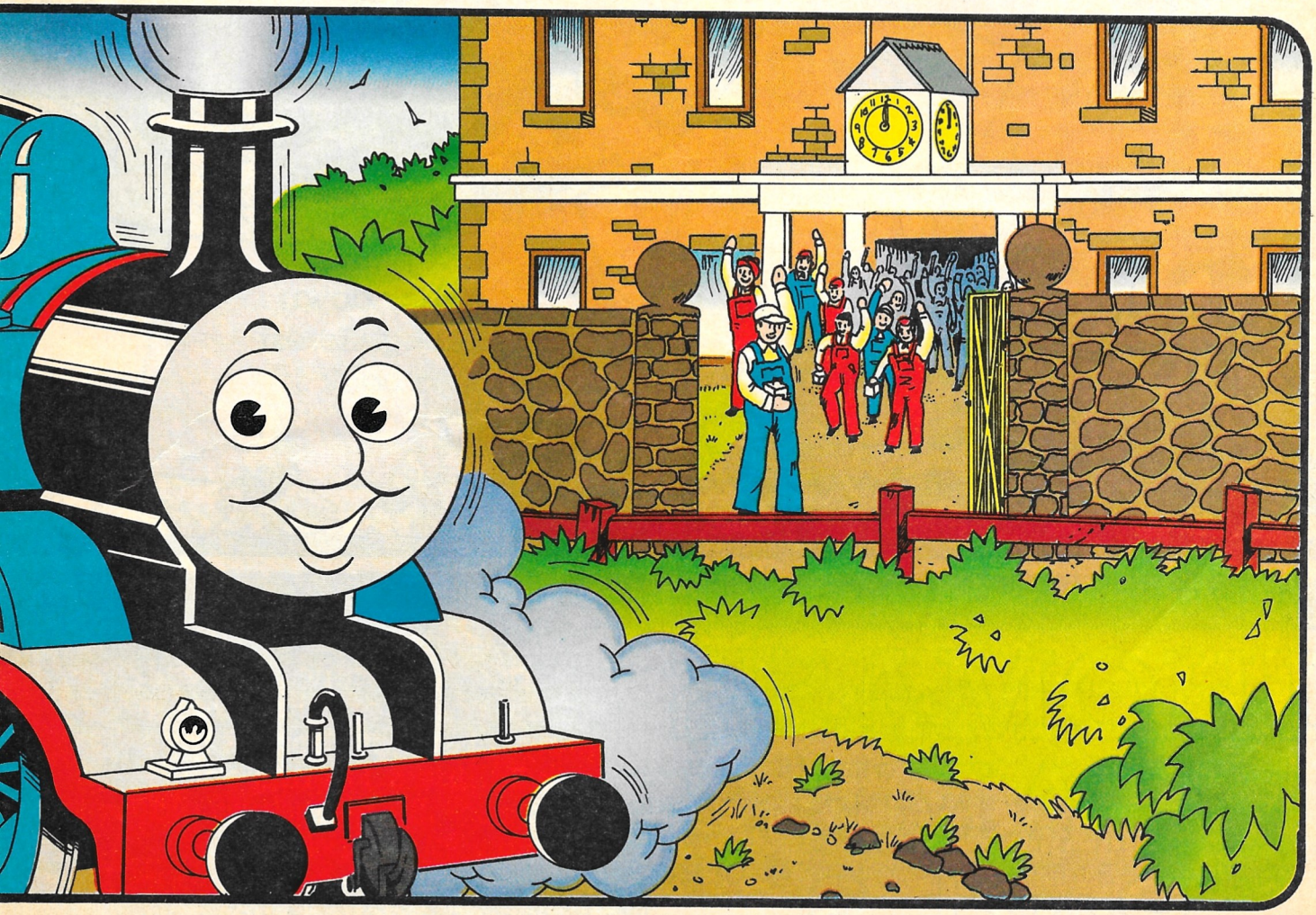


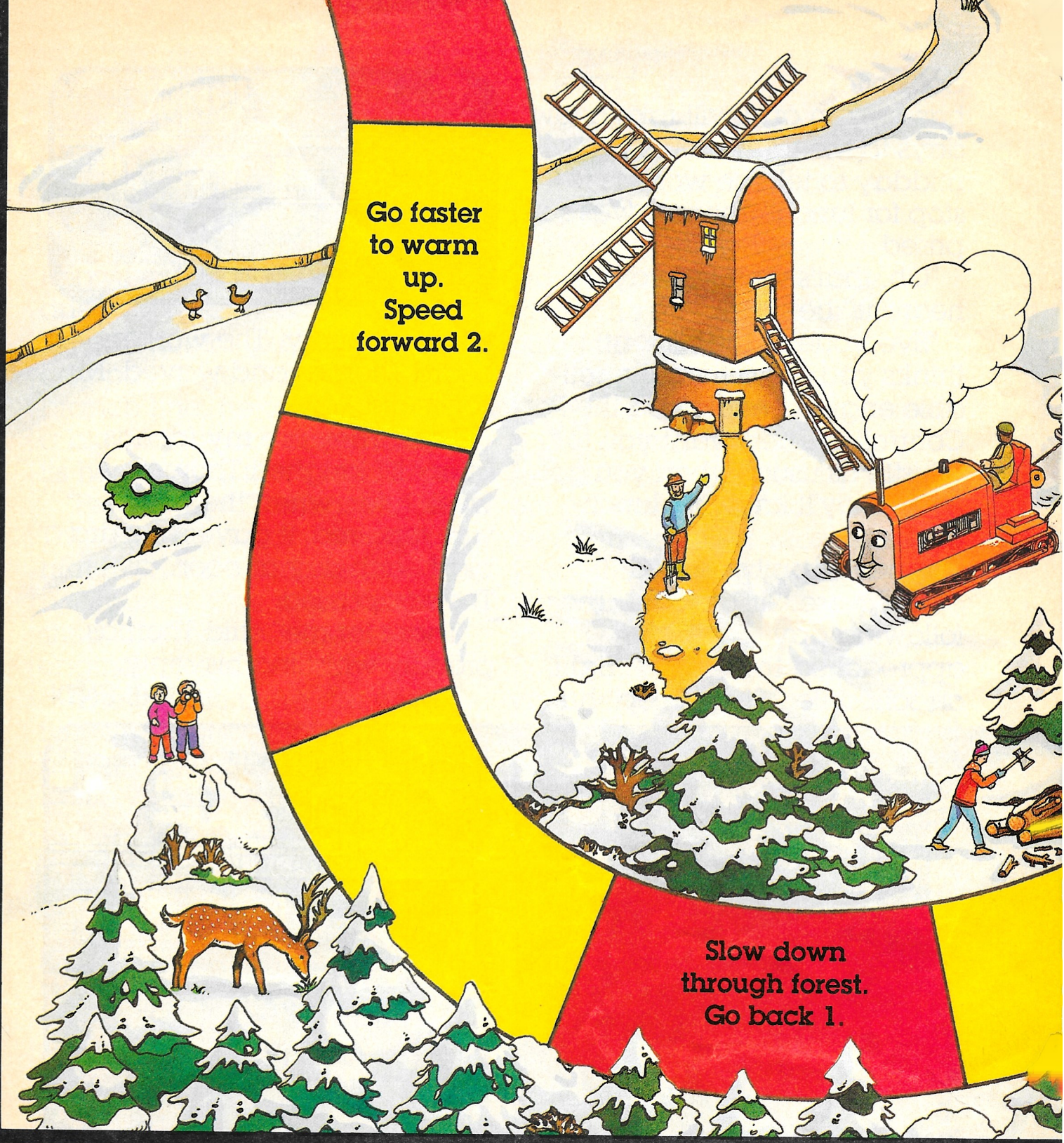
whistled loudly. The workers heard Thomas and waved. Mr Jones did, too.

"Look! They are my friends, after all!" laughed Thomas. A week later, when the hooter was repaired, it gave an extra blast each day at noon, as Thomas passed.

"That's for me!" said Thomas, proudly whistling his reply.

THE END!





THOMAS'S GAME Part 3

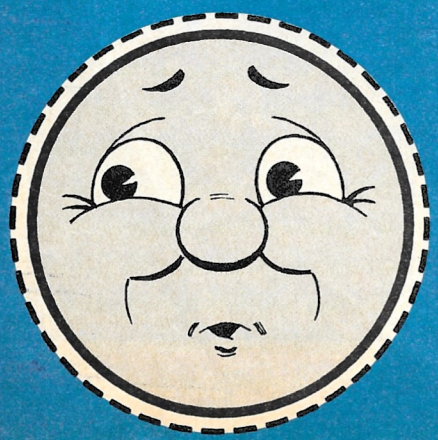
This is the third part of Thomas's dice game. You will find the fourth and last part in the next issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and then you will be ready to play! Stick this double page on to thin card, cut the blue border off along the dotted lines and cut out your third counter.

Stop to help Terence. Miss a turn.

Uphill slowly. Slip back 1.

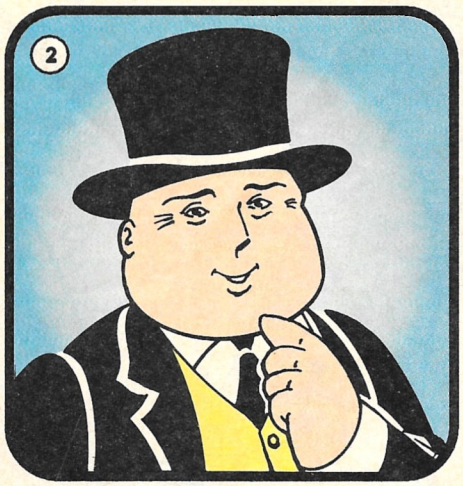
Hello vicar! Move on 1.

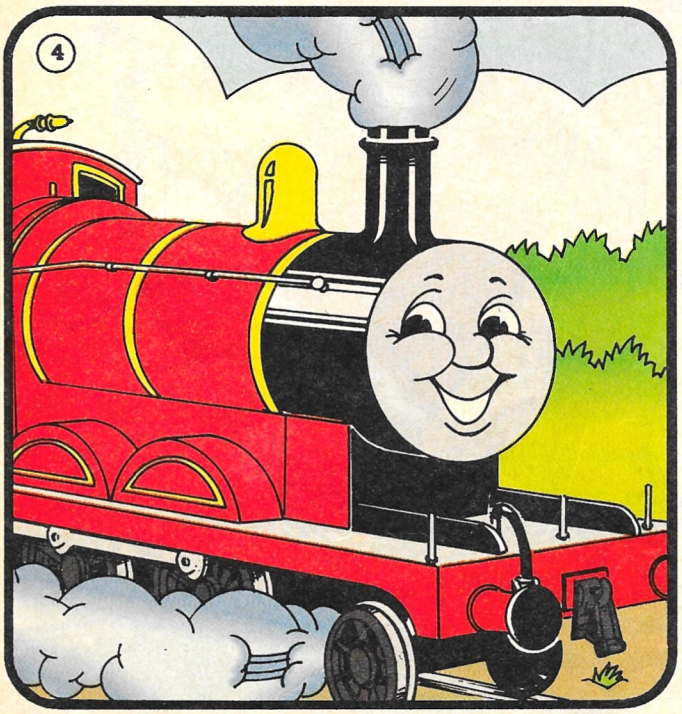
Snow-plough gets fitted. Go forward 3.



Can you see Terence the Tractor?
What is he pulling?
Point to the windmill!
What are the guards lifting out of the shed?
Point to the deer!

GUESS WHO?

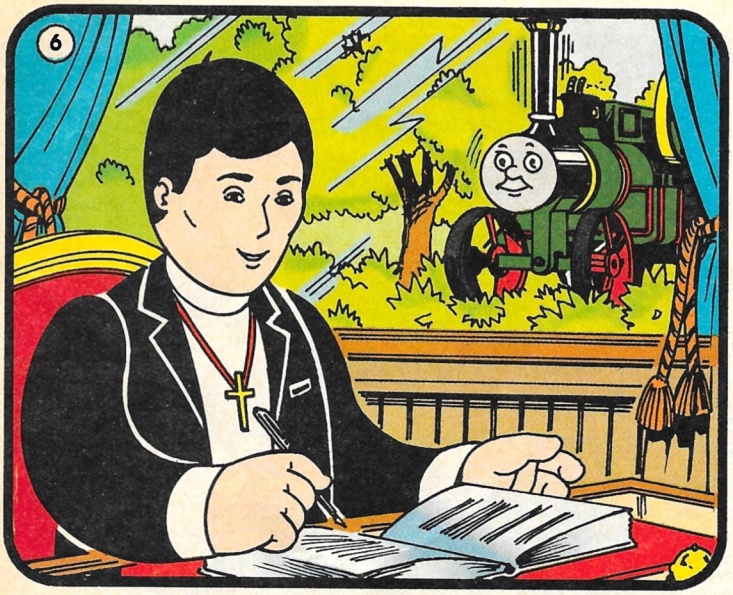


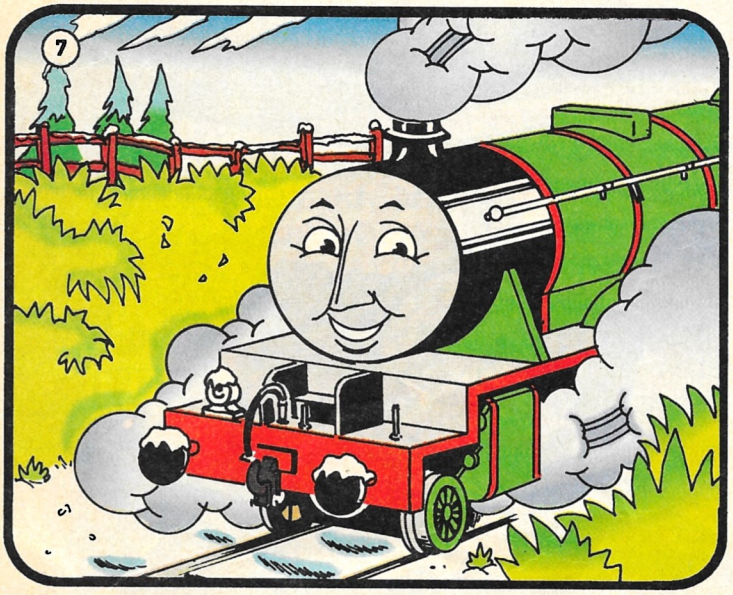


STORYBOARD!

Can you number the pictures in the right order to make a Thomas story?

The rhymes on this page are all about some friends on the Fat Controller's railway! Look at the pictures, then read the rhymes! You can match each picture and rhyme by taking the numbers from each picture and writing them by their corresponding rhymes!





A boy and a girl -
Can you guess who they are?
They love the railway -
And they visit their Grandpa!

My paint is bright blue!
To each station and back
I pull Annie and Clarabel
The length of the track

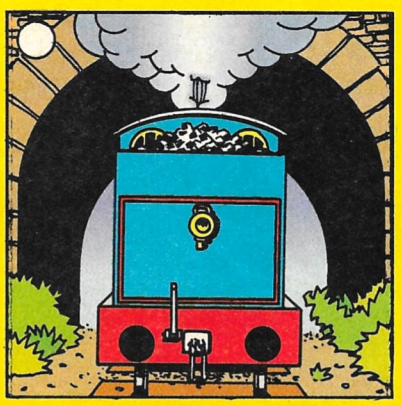
My engines and drivers
Say I'm quite fat.
I always look smart
In my shiny top hat!

I'm a very grand engine -
See me in my splendour!
With green and red paint
And for coal, a green tender!

I work with Thomas -
His fireman and his guard!
I can drive all the engines
And I work very hard!

I'm a famous red engine -
No one dares call me names!
Do you know who I am?
Yes, the answer is - - - - -!

Trevor the Traction Engine
Lives in my orchard, here.
And to my church on Sundays
Friends come far and near!

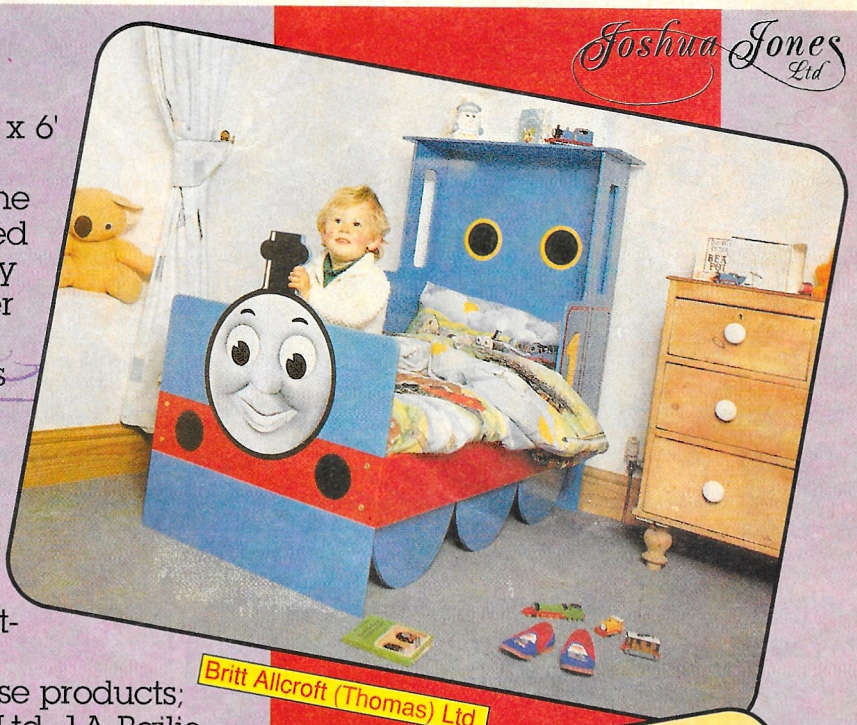


COMPETITION!

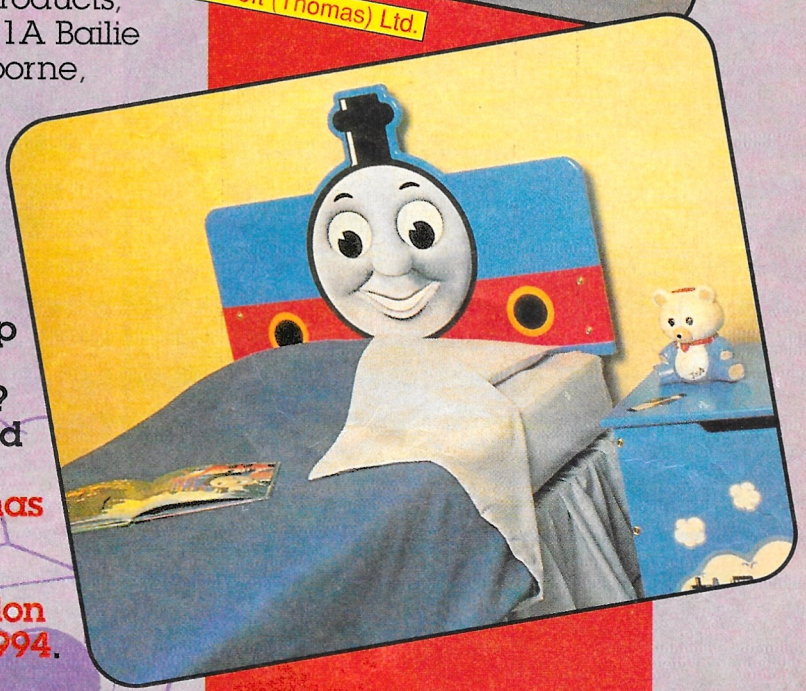
Our 1st prize winner will receive a single size Thomas Bed (to fit 2' 6" x 6' 3" mattress not supplied.) The cabin end is 48in.high. The Thomas Bed comes flat-packed in 3 separate boxes. It is partly assembled and the remainder is simple to put together with full instructions and all fittings supplied.

2 second prize winners will receive a Thomas Bedhead (to fit standard 3' divan). The Bedhead comes to you in a single flat box with only the two brackets to attach.. (All fittings supplied.)

For further information on these products; please contact Joshua Jones Ltd, 1A Bailie Gate, Sturminster Marshall, Wimborne, Dorset or telephone 0258 858470.



Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd.



How to enter:

Simply answers the following three Thomas questions!

1.What colour is Daisy, the modern diesel railcar?

2.Which engine was bricked up in a tunnel?

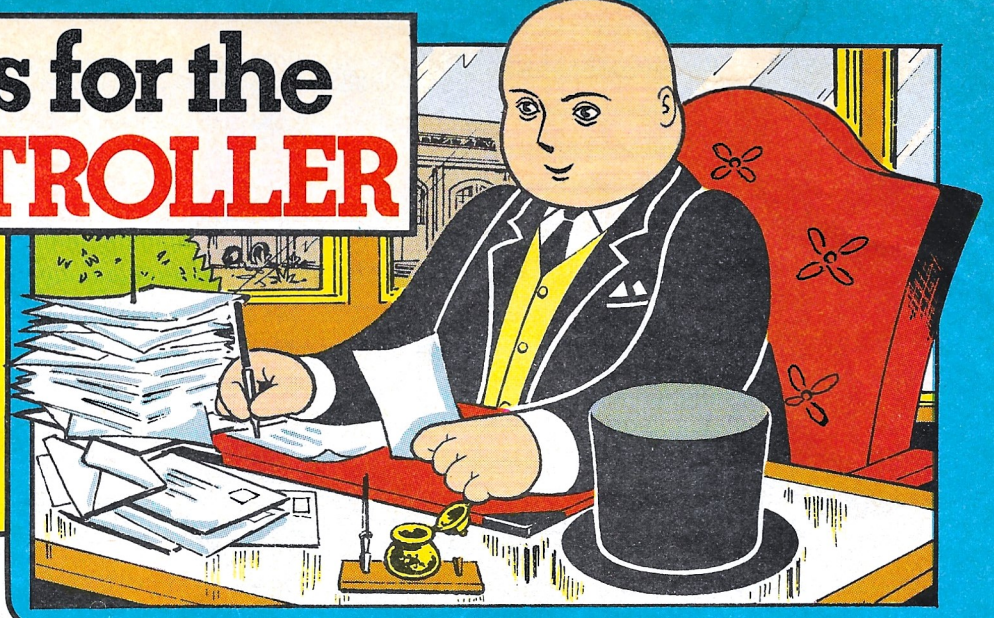
3.What colour is Bertie the bus?

Send your answer on a postcard with your name, age and address to: Joshua Jones Thomas Bed Competition, Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St, London WC2R 3DX by 25th February 1994.

COMPETITION RULES

This competition is open to all readers other than employees and their families of Joshua Jones Ltd, Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd, William Heinemann Ltd. and Marvel Comics Ltd. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into. Our three winners will be the first correct entries drawn after the closing date. No responsibility can be taken for entries lost or damaged in the post. All entrants are bound by the rules.

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
Last year, I was in hospital because I have leukaemia but my treatment is making me feel much better now! My favourite *Thomas* stories have also cheered me up!

Love from **Gary Hindmarch**, aged 6.

I'm very pleased that you are feeling better now and we are all very impressed by the courage you have shown in fighting your illness!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

FAMOUS VISITOR!

Dear Fat Controller,
My Mum and Dad took me to Perth in Scotland to see the *"Union of South Africa"*. It was a big steam engine and I would like to know if it has ever visited the Island of Sodor?

Love from **Jamie Pilc**, aged 2.

'The Union of South Africa' has never visited the Island of Sodor. The 'Flying Thistle' was the last mainland engine to visit the Island railway.

ALERT DRIVER!

Dear Fat Controller,
My name is Thomas and when I get bigger, I want to be a train driver. Please tell me how I can become a driver on your railway.

Love from **Thomas Nugent**.

You will need to have a Really Useful knowledge of railway engines, and a good general knowledge of railway lines. It is also very helpful to organise timetables well and be alert at all times!

BIRTHDAYS!

Special greetings go out to...

John James Ruff, Robin Andrew Smith, Michael Armitage, Sam Simpson, Sebastian Pitman, Matthew Ryan, Benjamin Bloom and Patrick Anthony Crombie.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a post-card at least **nine weeks** in advance!

Yours
Sir Topham Hatt
The Fat Controller!

Send your letters to:

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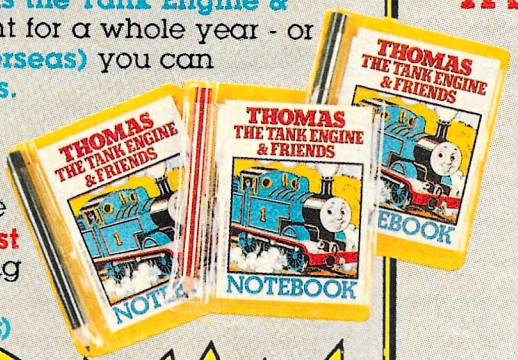

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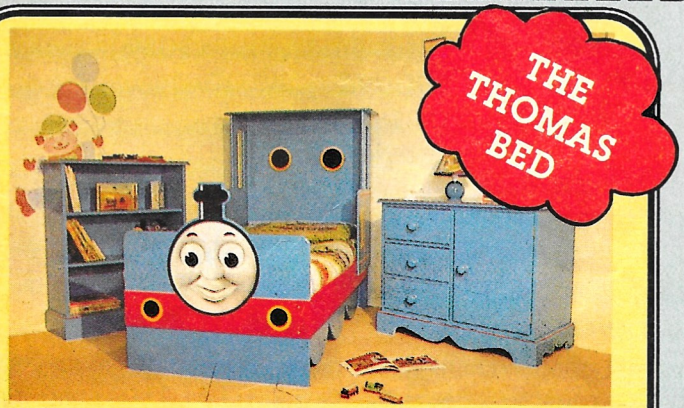

For further information on the **Thomas the Tank Engine Bed, Bedhead** and **Toybox,** plus the complimentary blue bedroom furniture please call: **Joshua Jones Ltd 0258 858470** **or** for a **FREE** colour brochure and price list please send a large stamped addressed envelope to: ***Joshua Jones Ltd, 1A Baillie Gate Ind. Est. Sturminster Marshall. Wimbourne. Dorset. BH21 4DB.***

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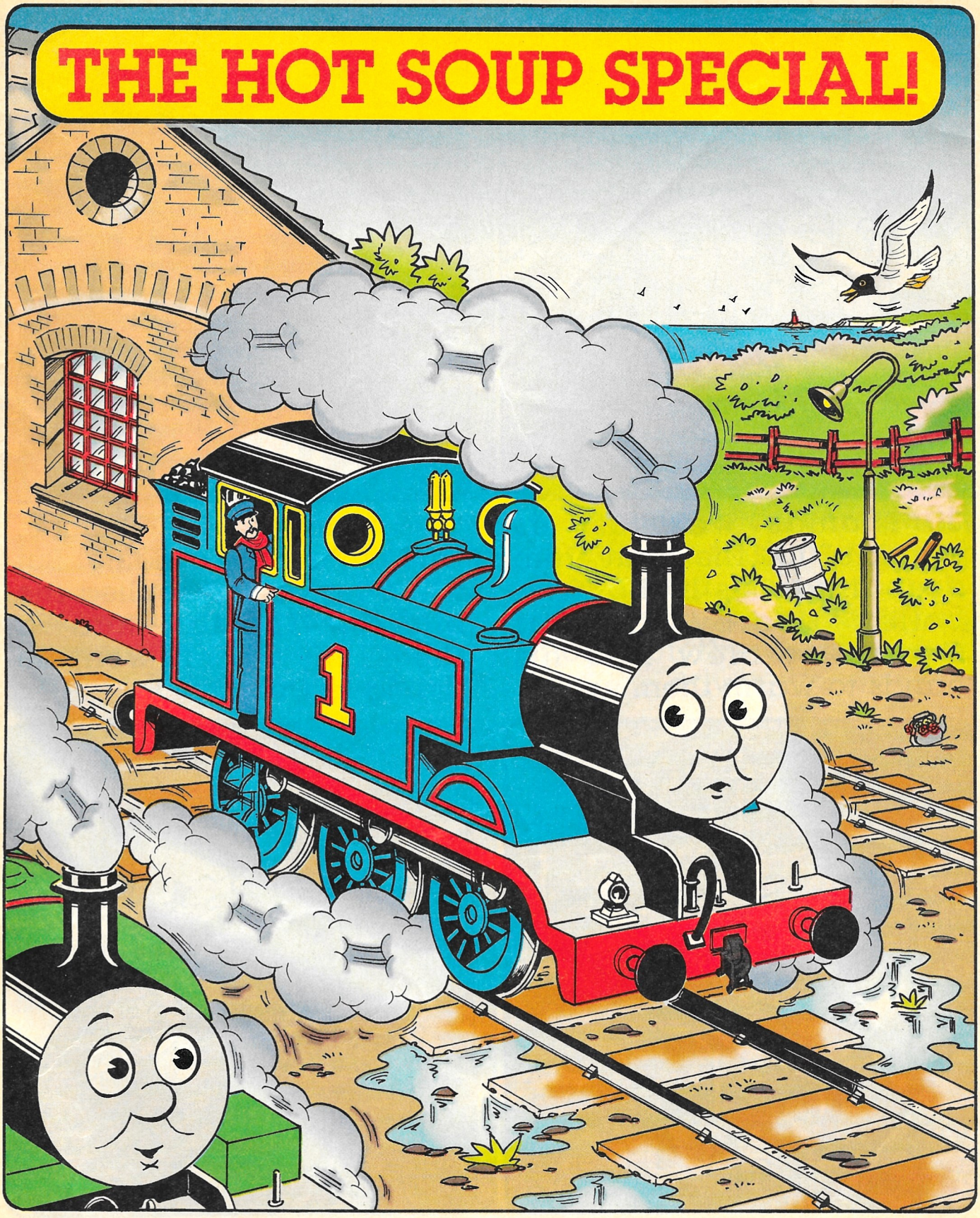
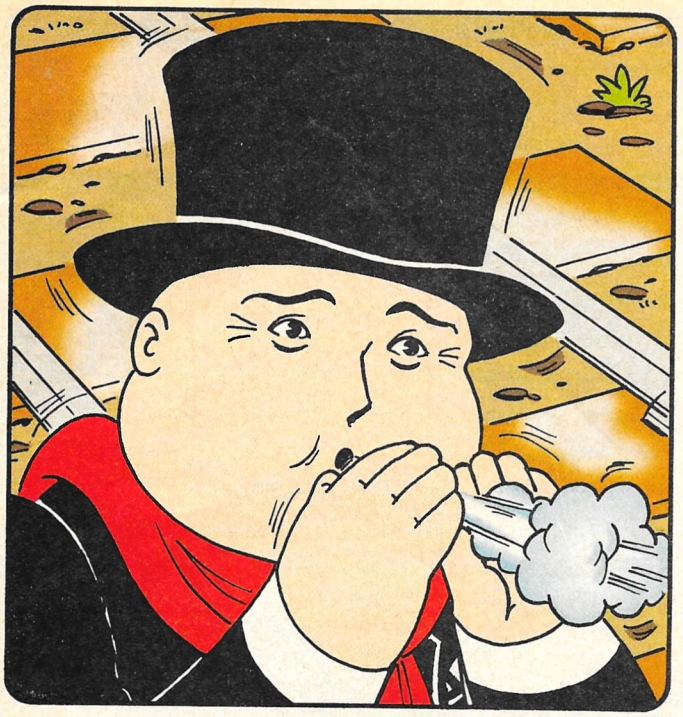
THE HOT SOUP SPECIAL!

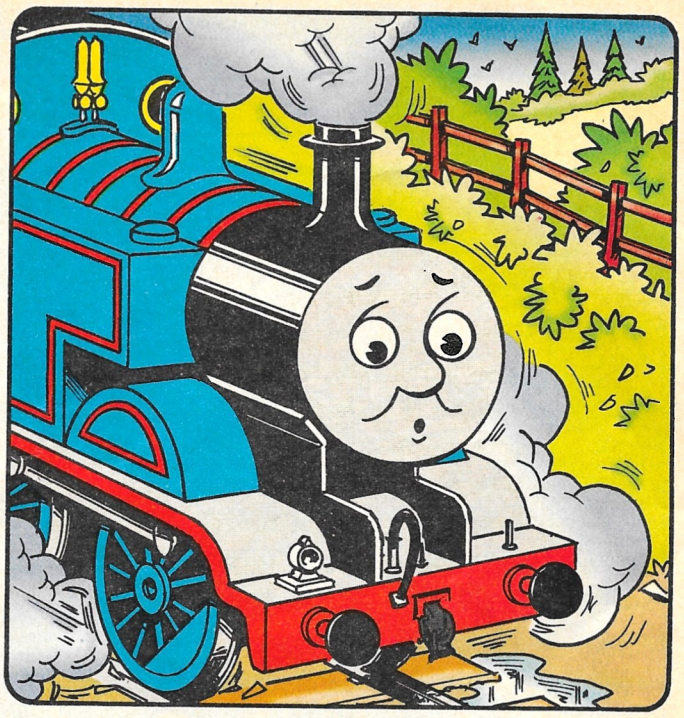


1. "Brr! The rails feel freezing!" huffed Thomas, rolling out of the engine shed into the yard, one winter's morning. There was a thick, crisp frost in the air.

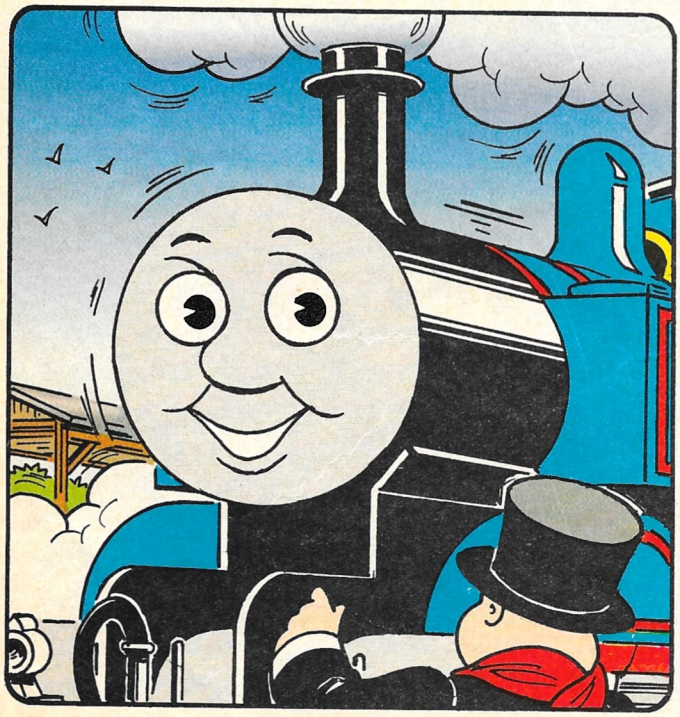
2. "Good gracious! It's almost like snow!" Thomas gasped. "And as cold!" his driver shivered. "I'm glad I brought a thermos flask of tea to keep me warm!"



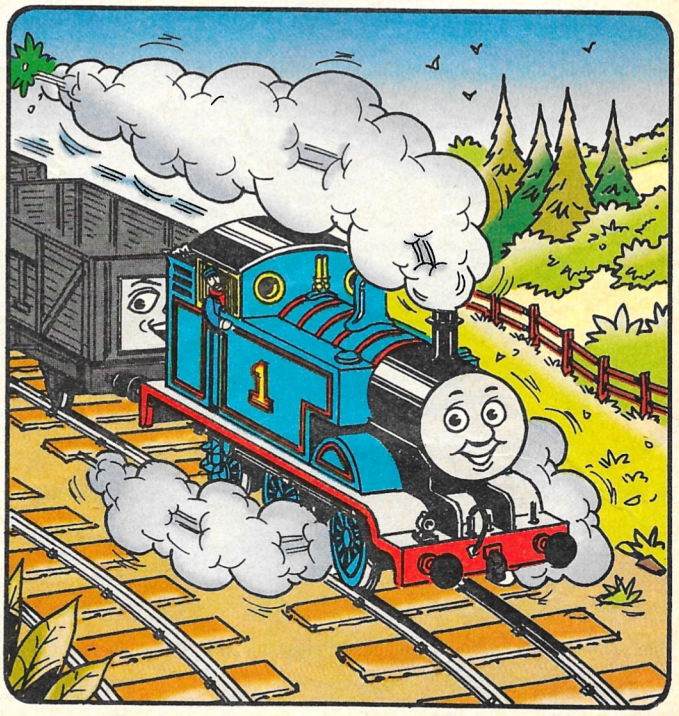
3. Thomas was just as thankful for the heat from deep inside his firebox and boiler. Nearby, the Fat Controller blew into his hands to warm them up.



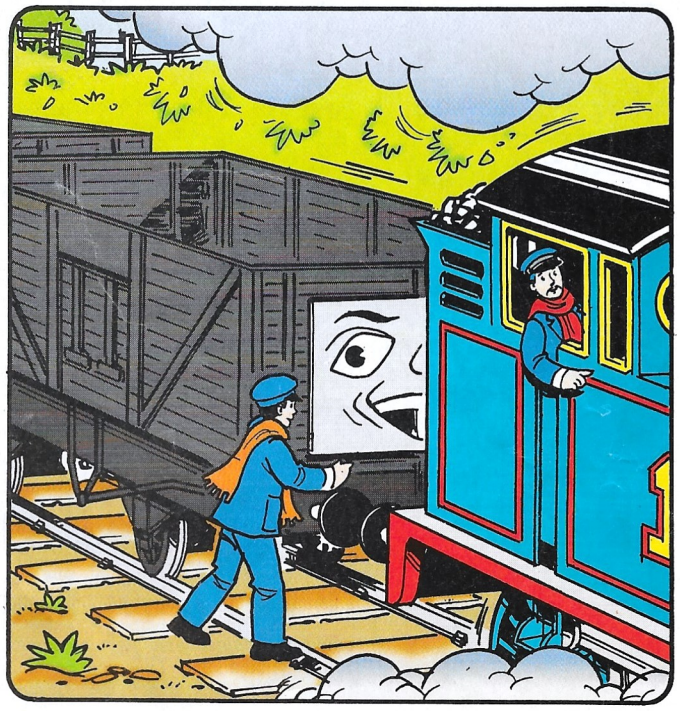
4. He came to see Thomas, who puffed into a siding. But when his driver applied the brakes, Thomas had a shock. His wheels went on sliding forwards!



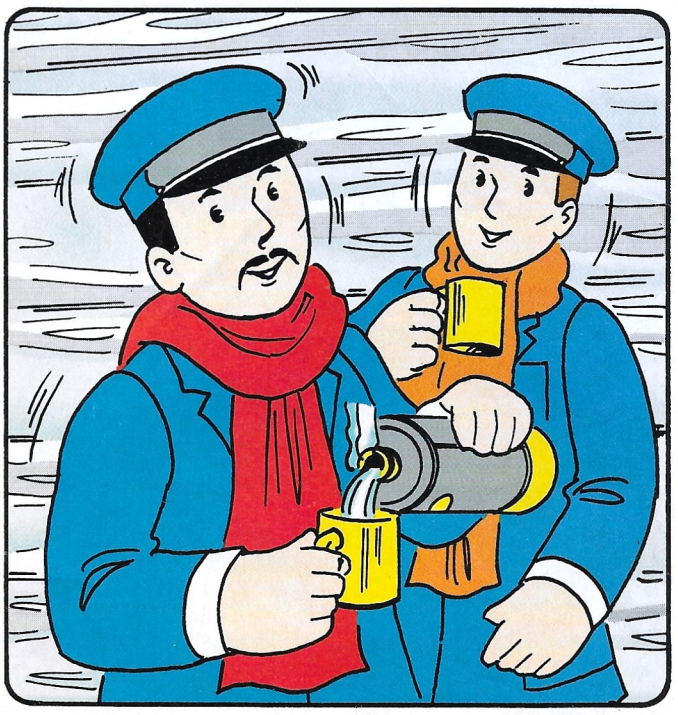
5. "Ooh!" gasped Thomas. Luckily, there were no other engines or trucks in his way and he came safely to a halt. "What happened?" asked Thomas.



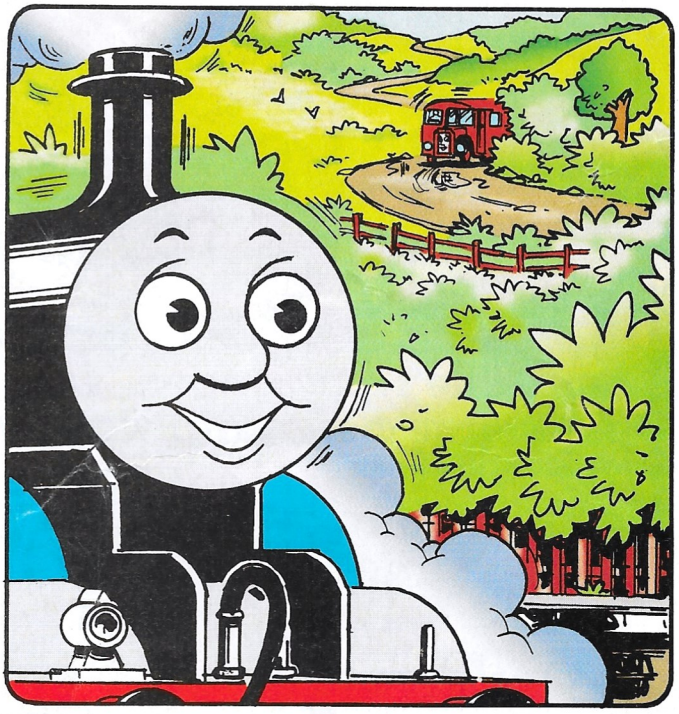
6. "There's ice on the rails!" replied the Fat Controller. "You'll have to go really steadily today!" Soon Thomas set off with some empty trucks.



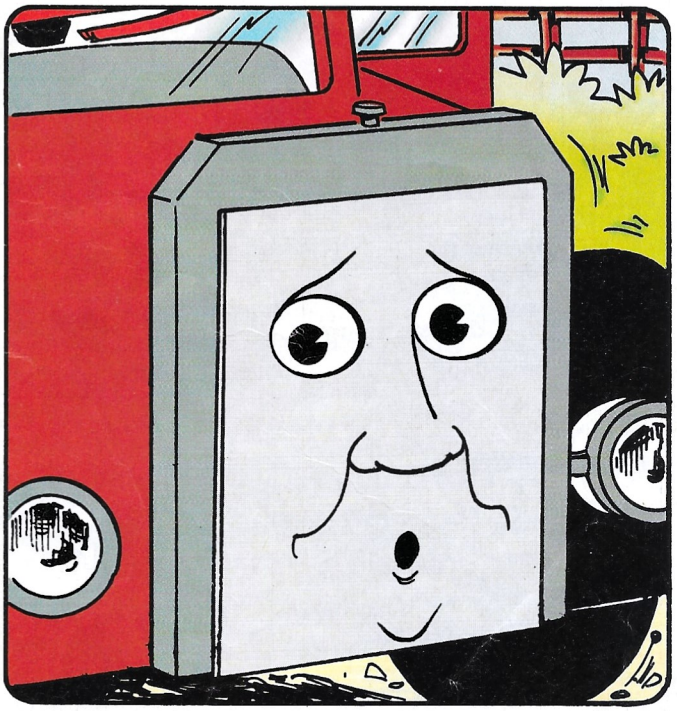
7. He was to deliver them to a station on his branch line. At last, Thomas arrived and the trucks were uncoupled at the far end of a very long siding.



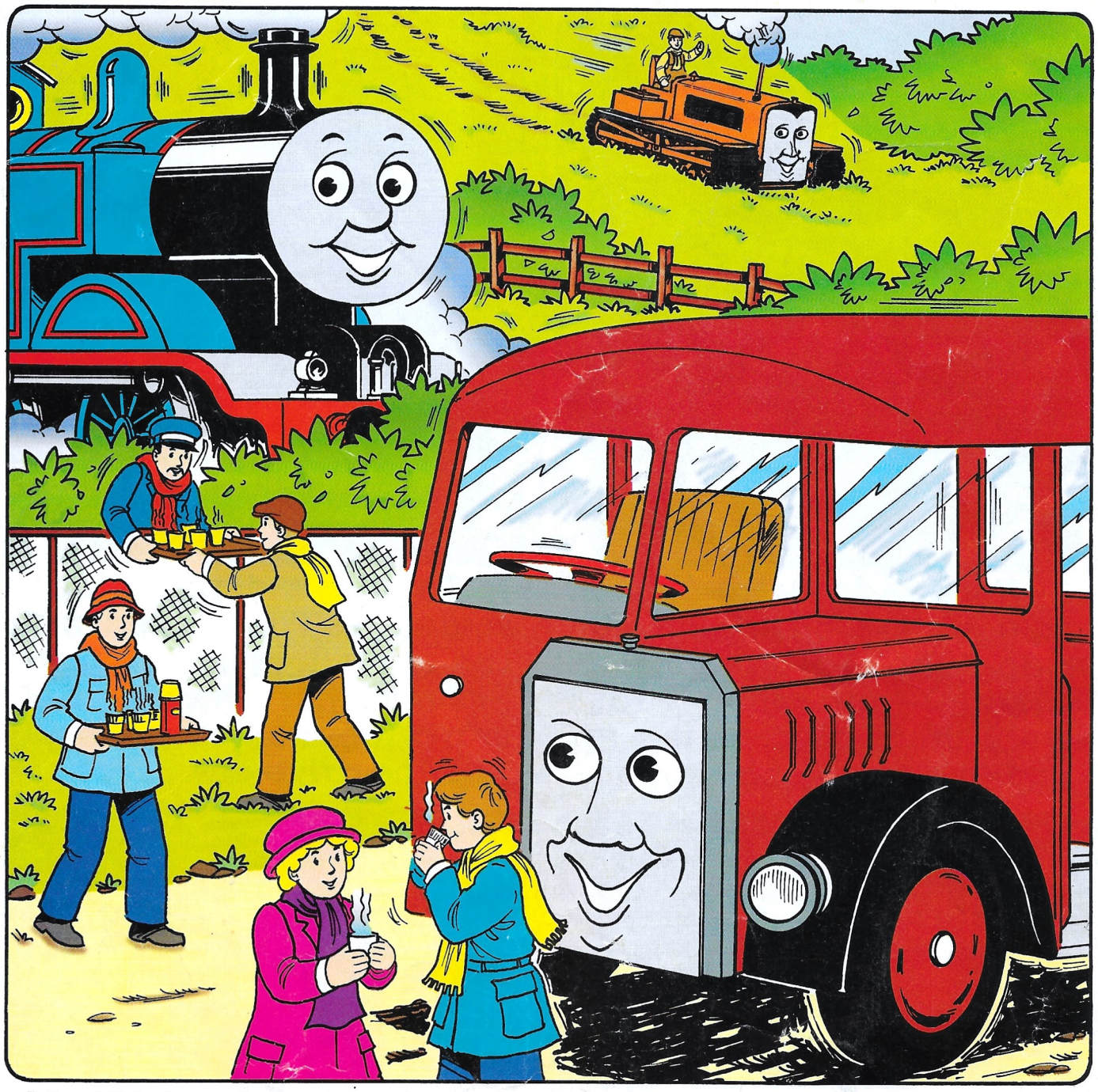
8. Thomas's driver kindly shared his flask of tea with the guard and fireman. "It's a pity we haven't any more for the return trip!" said the driver.



9. But the Stationmaster filled the flask with hot soup from the station buffet. While he was waiting, Thomas spotted Bertie the Bus.



10. Suddenly, Bertie's wheels began to spin! His driver controlled the skid skilfully and Bertie stopped. "There's ice on the road," Bertie cried. "I can't move!"



11. "We're stranded!" called Bertie's worried driver. "I can't turn everyone off the bus. It is much too far for the passengers to walk back to town." " We've got no carriages today, I'm afraid," replied Thomas's driver. "But Terence the Tractor will help! With his useful caterpillar treads, he can pull Bertie off the ice."

12. Bertie's passengers were pleased to hear help was on the way. Meanwhile, Thomas backed up along the siding. His driver fetched cartons of steaming soup from the station café for all Bertie's passengers. They were very grateful. "Well done, Thomas!" said Bertie. "I'm the Hot Soup Special!" Thomas laughed.

THE END!

In our next issue: Vanishing Bertie!